

“Keeping In Touch”

Quarterly Newsletter by/for Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game
Retirees/Families and Interested Former Employees

April 2011, Vol. 7, No. 2

Dates to Remember

**Retiree Luncheon
Schedule
Golden Corral
on Emerald in Boise
11:30 a.m.**

**2011
May 12
July 14
September 8
November 10**

Mark Your Calenders!

Welcome!

New Retirees: *Melvin Hughes* retired December 17, 2010, after working 16 years for the Fisheries Bureau, most recently at the Sawtooth Fish Hatchery. (Sorry, Melvin, for not including you in the last newsletter. I inadvertently misplaced your info. Please forgive “this old mind!”)

Also, *Cal Groen* retired March 31, 2011, after 21 years with the department, the last four as director.

And the Fisheries Bureau is losing three of their hard working folks! *Bill Horton* officially retired March 18 after 35 years and *Tom Rogers* retired March 31 after 37 years. And, *Vaughn Paragamian* retired on April 16 after 21 years.

Welcome Back!

We’re happy to have *Dennis Aslett* and *Will Reid* back on our Retiree List. (Since you might not have returned your postcard, we thought you weren’t interested in *Keeping in Touch*. Happy to have you both back!)

And *Linda Heydt*, who worked for Information & Education Bureau quite awhile has been in contact and she is very much interested in being a part of our group. (Am so happy to add you to our list, Linda!) Rest assured, you are all back and will receive all Retiree updates.

Goodbye, Cal! Hello, Virgil!

As you know, Director *Cal Groen* has now retired and has been replaced by *Virgil Moore*. We just want to wish Cal and Rebecca a great retirement and to welcome Virgil to the Director’s position. We know he will make us proud!

* * *

Farewell to All!

“I want to say thanks to my Fish and Game family for a memorable career and life with you. Today is my last day as an employee and I leave with mixed emotions. I work with great people and will miss you on a day-to-day basis, but I also look forward to the next venture in life that retirement will offer. I’m clocking out with about 35 years experience, counting temp time — wow it goes fast! I challenge you to keep up the good work of protecting Idaho’s wildlife and providing it to our citizens, the task will only become more challenging in future years.

“I’m going to join that good group of retirees in the Boise area and use that to keep in touch as best I can. I also plan to stay active hunting, fishing and playing in Idaho’s outdoors and may see you then. Thanks for the memories. Cheers. *Bill Horton*” (March 18, 2011)

Does Anyone Know of R. F. Jacobs?

Diane Harper e-mailed me with the following information: “I called a friend in Huron, SD, last night to see how they are doing in the snow They were at

See: R. F. Jacobs, Page 2

R. F. Jacobs, cont. from Page 1

Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument when Hugh and I volunteered there and we became good friends, like son and daughter.

"In the conversation, Hilary mentioned that there is a 40' pheasant sculpture outside Huron and she had discovered that the artist was from Gooding, ID. My friends had lived in Gooding while he was a Ranger at HAFO.

"The artist was R. F. Jacobs from Gooding, ID and the pheasant was dedicated in 1959. Since Hugh was the manager of the Lapwai Game Farm at one time, I was wondering if Jacobs might have been with Idaho Fish and Game. Just curious. Best, Diane Harper"

After checking with Connie Thelander in Human Resources/ Payroll Office, she could find no records for Mr. Jacobs. If anyone has any info regarding Mr. Jacobs, please let me know at: JJFisher938@q.com or 888-1015 and I will pass it on to Diane. Thanks. jjf

Retiree Updates

Tom and Connie Abel live in a great area of Idaho. They shared some pictures of moose they photographed after following the tracks from their backyard. Makes me want to move to

Rathdrum! Thanks for sharing with us, Tom!

Received the following information from **Gary Gadwa** regarding his daughter Jodie's participation in the Susan G. Komen Foundation. "Our daughter Jodie is a dedicated supporter of the Susan G. Komen for the (Breast Cancer) Cure Foundation. Jodie runs in marathons across the Southwest and takes part in other event to raise awareness and to fund raise. The video below exemplifies the dedication of women across America to fund raise for the Cure. Thanks for taking a few moments to watch the video.
Gary

"P.S. Jodie previously a military jet pilot is now about to be entering Medical School."

FYI! Each time someone views the video, United Healthcare will make a \$.10 donation (10 cents) to the Komen organization. Their goal is to get a million hits, which will lead to \$100,000 raised. Please take a moment to watch the video and please pass this link onto your network of friends, family, etc. It benefits a very important cause. Thanks for helping. Go to the following website:
www.KomenPhiladelphia.org/Video to view.

And **Deborah Trent** is also into helping breast cancer survivors or ones in treatment. "A couple

of friends and I started the Casting for Recovery program in Idaho five years ago. It's a nationwide program in 42 states that takes women in treatment w/breast cancer or in recovery from breast cancer fly fishing for an all expenses paid weekend of fly fishing (beautiful retreat center in Challis, Idaho). Orvis loans rods, reels, vest and miscellaneous equipment for all of the participants. At the retreat, we have two female Fly Fishing Federation instructors teaching casting. I teach a yoga class, bugs and fly tying. A female MD/breast cancer surgeon, two nurses, and a cancer psychotherapist work together as a team to provide medical and emotional support to the 14 women in Idaho who are selected randomly by the C for R national office to attend the retreat.

"If you know any woman in Idaho who has had breast cancer or is in treatment for breast cancer, please pass this information along. The retreat is the first weekend in June and more information and registration applications are at this website:
www.castingforrecovery.org.

"I am doing well. Of course, I still miss Tracey very much and spent a lot of time last year visiting our favorite places and spreading his ashes on the Dean River in B.C., the Salmon and

See Updates, cont. Page 3

Updates, cont. from Page 2

Clearwater rivers this fall in Idaho and this year, Whitney and I will visit his/our favorite hunting spots. There is a lot of Tracey to spread around!!! and those were his wishes.

"A couple of months back, you mentioned a fellow by the name of Sam who was killed in a plane crash. I recall a story from Tracey about Sam. Apparently, they worked together in Idaho Falls. He told me about several adventures with Sam that involved some old Fish and Game vehicle with Sam driving/barreling like hell down some backcountry mountain road. Years later, as Tracey and I would be doing the same, he would exclaim, 'Whoa, Lightenin' WHOA! — that's what Sam would say to slow the rig down!' Well, I hope the 'two big guys in the sky' are having some fast, fun adventures now . . . Whoa! My best wishes to ALL for a Healthy and Happy New Year, *Debbie Trent*"

Life is Good!

*Submitted by Dennis Aslett,
March 22, 2011*

Since my retirement in 2005, I have done a rather poor job of keeping in touch with many of the people that I had the pleasure of dealing with over the years within the IDFG. In my travels I will occasionally bump into either a current or former employee and always enjoy hearing

the latest about the agency and about what my former coworkers are doing. I recently discovered the "Keeping In Touch" electronic newsletter and found it to be a good source of information as well as quite entertaining. In the spirit of keeping in touch, I would like to share a bit of what my lovely wife, Jody, and I have been up to the past few years.

In 2007, we moved to Sandpoint after we found a small home in the middle of a huckleberry patch on 10 acres hidden in the backwoods. We live at the end of a two and a half mile private road that we share with a few other folks. The road poses a few challenges, especially in the winter, but we have no close neighbors, lots of peace and quiet, loads of huckleberries, and gorgeous scenery. It suits us just fine.

Those who know us will not be surprised to learn that we are still very active runners and maintain our mutual passion for the sport. We continue to run nearly every day. We both particularly enjoy the long distance events such as marathons, 50 and 100 mile trail races, and about everything in between. We participate in several every year. Jody is a bit younger and keeps getting faster, while I, on the other hand seem to get progressively slower — something about age! No complaints, though. As I see it,

everyday that I can go for a run is a bonus. I hope to continue running, even at a slower pace, for a long time. I am working part time and Jody is working full time to help support our running habit!

Jody has a long list of highlights in her running career so far. She has completed around 40 marathons in 5 states including Boston 3 times; and winner of the women's division of the Mesa Falls Marathon in Ashton, Idaho 7 times; most recently the women's winner in the 2010 Coeur d' Alene Marathon, as well as the winner of the Mt. Si 50 Mile Trail Race in Washington last year. She has also completed a number of 50k and 50 mile trail races and 7-100 mile trail races. She completed 3-100 milers in 2010 and finished in the top 3 women in all of them. She nearly always places in the top 5 women and has won tons of age group awards.

I have completed somewhere around 80 marathons in 15 states and 3 countries including Boston 5 times, the first marathon of the new millennium in New Zealand, the Havana Marathon in Cuba, and race creator and co-race director of the Mesa Falls Marathon for 11 years in Ashton, Idaho. Although I make no claims about being fast, I have been fortunate enough to have

See Updates, cont. Page 4

Updates, cont. from Page 3

won an age group award or two over the years. Jody and I ran the Boston Marathon together for our honeymoon dressed in appropriate wedding attire. Our photo appeared in a couple of newspapers as a result — unforgettable day for us!

I have completed numerous 50k, 50 mile, 100k trail races throughout the west and have completed 20-100 mile trail races so far including:

Grand Slam of Ultrarunning, which is completing the four oldest 100 milers in the US in one summer. They were Western States 100 in California, Leadville 100 in Colorado, Vermont 100, and the Wasatch 100 in Utah—placed 11th of 21 finishers.

Hardrock 100 in Colorado. This is arguably the toughest 100 miler in the US. The elevation ranges from 7,500 ft. to 14,050 ft. with an average elevation of 11,000 ft. The elevation gain and loss is 68,000 ft which is equivalent to climbing from sea level to the top of Mt. Everest and back again. Runners must complete the course in 48 hours to be considered an official finisher. I was able to finish in a mere 43 hours.

The Swan Crest 100 near Columbia Falls, Montana in 2010. This was Montana's first 100 mile race.

The Plain 100 in Washington state in 2010. This is a very tough self supported trail race which often has no finishers at all. It is actually 107 miles in length. I placed 8th of 28 starters and 11 finishers and was the oldest finisher ever.

For the record the 100 mile races are typically run on mountain trails and have time limits ranging from 30 to 48 hours depending on the difficulty of the course. The races are run straight through which includes running through the night with headlamps. Most races have aid stations along the way at 5-15 mile intervals that are stocked with food, water, first aid supplies, etc. and are also a way to keep track of the runners. Runners can have a "pacer" go along with them in the second half of most 100's for support and safety if they choose.

Jody and I have also done a number of "fun" runs. We, along with our training partner, ran, on foot, the length of the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in 3 days (about 125 miles of trail). We dined, danced, and spent one night at the Middle Fork Ranch and the second night at the Flying B. Truly a once in a lifetime adventure! We are planning to do this one again.

Jody, myself, and four of our running friends ran the length of the Wind River Mountains in

Wyoming in 2 days. We planned to run it in one day but the guide, me, got us lost and we were forced to spend the night huddled around the campfire telling lies. What a trip--this is one of our fondest memories!

We have 2 marathons, 2-50 milers, 3-100 milers, numerous shorter races, and tons of training runs scheduled again for this year. In addition, since we had extra time on our hands, we have taken up skate skiing in the winter to add to snowshoeing and winter running and we recently purchased road bicycles and have entered a 150 mile, one day ride in June. What were we thinking? Jody is also swimming now and has added triathlons to her activity list. I have had to draw the line at triathlons—all of this extra training is starting to interfere with my nap time!!

We are often asked why we run and the best reply I have heard came from a friend of mine when he said, "I plan to die young—at a very old age!"

Life has been pretty darn good to us! We hope all is well with all of you! Best wishes.

Dennis and Jody Aslett



Greetings from the Parkers in Idaho

May was the BIG month this year for all three daughters. Our BIG news was the May 22 birth of our second grandchild! Yes, we are all thrilled that **Elisa** -- after 18 years, produced another son -- **Maxx Cameron**, born in McCall, Idaho. Elisa has her own veterinary clinic in Riggins, ID, and **Rusty** is still the GREATEST fishing, rafting, and jet boat guide on the Salmon and Snake rivers in Idaho and Oregon. **Dakota** will graduate from high school in June. He has had major parts in several plays. He plans to be a movie producer, of course!

Laura graduated in May from Nursing School in Walla Walla and is now an RN at a very lovely retirement community in Pullman, WA. Fortunately, she (and her horses) can live at home again for awhile, so we are really enjoying that. Her boyfriend, Curtis, hosted a great graduation party at his parents' ranch in Walla Walla after her graduation.

Rebecca and Dock built a beautiful new house across the road from us. It is truly wonderful to be able to look out and see her and her beautiful 7 horses so near us, especially since she has everything lit up with Christmas lights this winter.

Rodney keeps busy being a Fire District Commissioner. This year they completed all 3 stages of the

new fire station in Deary, and it turned out great! He is also on the County Planning and Zoning Commission which is always interesting and controversial. Our vacation last spring was to the Washington coast at Long Beach—a beautiful beach and perfect place to whale watch. He has spent a year planning our 2011 trip to Europe in the spring, and is now working hard to learn German.

Lanore is employed part-time with Alternative Nursing Services, mostly helping seniors in their own homes. She also cooks at the Sr. Citizens Center occasionally. We enjoy our beautiful, big church in our little town of Deary (population—400 dear people) that Rodney helped build. She was treated to a great (fast) ride in an experimental airplane when her friend from Mississippi flew here with it.

2008 and 2009 broke the historical records for snow in North Idaho; this year there is a lot, too, and we cross-country ski from our back door. We also have our own herd of 8 deer on our back patio every night to keep us entertained. Our horses, dogs, and rescue dogs always keep us entertained and busy. They are the joy of our lives, and we encourage you to always support your local Humane Society, Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Utah, and (Rebecca's favorite) Columbia

Basin Equine Rescue. Why people continue to breed animals when so many are in dire need is unbelievable.

We send our love to all our friends and family and want to show our appreciation for all your letters and cards throughout the year! We wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year. May the Lord Bless you all! With all our love, Rod & LaNore Parker & Family (Email: Wildroses@cpcinternet.com)

"Under the Weather" Report

Had word from **Dale Turnipseed** via **Bill Platts** that **Glen Page** suffered a very serious heart attack Thanksgiving Day while shoveling snow. He also received serious head damage in the fall. Glen has now recovered and is doing great and pretty well back to normal. Take care, Glen and Beth. (*Glen was a Conservation Officer at Grace, Preston, Homedale and Montpelier, where he retired and is still living.*)

Former Director **Joe Greenley's wife, Marvel**, is recovering in Valley View Rehab Hospital after suffering a stroke. Joe says she has shown a little improvement in her leg and arm paralysis. She still has difficulty with her speech and eating. Joe is hoping that Marvel improves enough to be

See Report, cont. on Page 6

Report, cont. from Page 5

cared for at home. They are truly appreciative of all the cards and e-mails they have received from all of you hoping for Marvel's complete recovery.

Also, Former Director **Jerry Conley** took a fall on April Fool's Day and has hairline fractures in his lumbar vertebrae #1 and 2. Thank you, **Janet**, for the following update. (Jerry spent some time at Elks Rehab but was back home on Wednesday, April 20.) "His back pain has improved and he learned all the tricks to keep from injuring it again. Before he fell he was having some foot and hand numbness and weakness on his right side and just general inattentiveness to that side. We were pretty worried about that The MRI that he had last week showed that he has reoccurrence of the GBM that he was diagnosed with two and a half years ago. We are all incredibly sad about this but realize that we had great quality time relatively symptom free.

"Jerry has done a great deal of fishing, traveling and playing with the grandkids . . . all of the nine years he has been retired! Those and many other things we are thankful for right now . . . and that grandson Ben got a nice tom turkey on our place in Peck last weekend during the kid's hunt.

He is really proud of that and would love to tell the story!

"Jerry can take more radiation but we're asking more questions about that and meeting with that doctor the last week of April. I know that Jerry would enjoy hearing from folks. We'll be home and I know he'd enjoy a visit. He is really enjoying the cards, notes and calls. Since now that he'll be home he will probably feel isolated. Thanks again. Janet Conley"

In Memoriam

Donald Davis McPherson

July 3, 1926 -- Jan. 21, 2011

Don McPherson, 84, of Kooskia, passed away Friday, Jan. 21, 2011, at St. Mary's Hospital in Cottonwood, surrounded by his family. Don was the second of four children born to William and Almie Davis McPherson, near Kooskia. He was raised in Kooskia and Asotin, graduating from Kooskia High School in 1947, after serving three years in the U.S. Navy.

He married his high school sweetheart, Lorraine Yenney, in Moscow on June 1, 1949. They enjoyed 61 years of marriage, traveling and raising their two children, Kathy Ann and Donald Eugene (Gene) McPherson.

Don served in the U.S. Navy as a Seaman 1st Class, gunner's mate, on the USS Whitney, a

destroyer tender, from February 1944 to May 1946.

Between 1952 and 1981, Don was a conservation officer for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, living in Horseshoe Bend, Lowman, Garden Valley, the Lapwai bird farm, Salmon, and finally moving to Kooskia in 1961, where he finished his 30-year career. During his career, he spent many hours searching for lost hunters, hikers, berry pickers, campers, etc., in the backcountry of Idaho. Don taught gun safety in the Salmon, Kooskia and Kamiah schools for several years.

After Don retired from the Idaho Fish and Game Department in 1981, he spent a few years as a law enforcement officer for the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Board. Perhaps Don's greatest enjoyment during retirement was taking family and friends into the backcountry for summer fishing or fall hunting trips.

He was very active in the Idaho Horse Council; Idaho Trails Council; Back Country Horsemen of North Central Idaho; state of Idaho Back Country Horsemen; and Back Country Horsemen of America, and helped produce the "Horse Sense Video." He was a member of the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC)

**See In Memoriam,
cont. on Page 7**

**In Memoriam,
cont. from Page 6**

committee and helped develop a plan for the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. He served as a member of the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) for the five counties in central Idaho, and was a charter member of the Idaho County Sheriff's Posse.

Don was the Grangeville Border Days Grand Marshal in 2003 and rode his horse in the yearly parade every year thereafter. In 2009, Don and Lorraine were the Grand Marshals for the Elk City Wagon Road Days.

Don is survived by his wife Lorraine; his sister, Marie Palmer of Lewiston; his brother, Larry and Mary McPherson of Clearwater; his sister-in-law, Pat Yenney of Deary; his daughter, Kathy and Todd Brown of Grangeville; his son, Gene and Wendy McPherson of McCall; eight grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren; along with numerous nieces, nephews and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents; older brother, William (Billy); and brothers-in-law Curt Yenney and Robert Palmer.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Kooskia Ambulance, P.O. Box 339, Kooskia, ID 83539; or to the Tahoe Quick Response Unit, 786 Leitch Creek Road, Kooskia, ID

83539. The family would like to invite his friends and relatives to another celebration for Don to be conducted in the second week of August. Details are pending at this time.

Linda Lou (Hahn) Beard

On March 19, a memorial service at the Eagle Church of the Nazarene was held for **Linda Lou (Hahn) Beard** who passed away on March 2, 2011. She was born on August 25, 1947 in Caldwell, Idaho to George and Mildred Batt. Linda graduated from Vallivue High School in 1965. Linda worked for the State of Idaho in various agencies for over 15 years. She worked for the Information and Education Bureau at Fish and Game for a few years.

Linda is survived by her husband of 33 years, Steve Beard, Meridian, ID; sons Frank (Angee) Hahn, Nampa, ID; Steve Hahn, Austin, TX; grandchildren, Shelby, Danielle and Frank Hahn; siblings, Ed (Dee) Batt, Winlock, WA; Ken Batt, Caldwell, Idaho; Loraine Batt, Nampa, Idaho; Katherine (Nick) Batt-Helfrich, San Francisco, CA; and a number of nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and infant son, Danny Hahn.

* * *

Happy Birthday!

April

Linn French, April 1 (CE)
Dan Duggan, April 5
Dale Turnipseed, April 7

May

Don Wright, May 1
Jeff Wolfe, May 3
Jerry Mallet, May 5
Bob Moore, May 6
Corinne Barlow, May 7
Alice Cannaday, May 9
Frank Smith, May 13
Eric Stansbury, May 23 (CE)
Paul Hanna, May 25
Ruth Stemper, May 27
Bill Goodnight, May 29
Russ Kozacek, May 31

June

Larry Smith, June 6
Terry Williams, June 7
Walt Arms, June 9
Al Kiler, 91 years, June 13
Bob Bell, June 13
Dexter Pitman, June 16
Roger Olson, June 17
Jack Trueblood, June 18
Steve Huffaker, June 22
Carl Anderson, June 23
Joan Trueblood, June 27
Vaughn Brauer, June 27
Larry Miller, June 27
Don Stucker, June 27
Bruce Hauk, June 27 (CE)
(CE) = Current Employee

Happy Anniversary!

Bob & Betty Jane Royce
45 years, May 26